

The GARZETTE

Jan, 2005

Volume 14, Issue 1



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From the President's Desk

David Adcock, KA4KKF

Happy New Year, and I hope everyone had a great Christmas.

It is 2005 and February is coming on soon. That means it will be time to elect new officers for the club. At the January meeting we take nominations for officers. The club will also vote on the meeting place for the coming years. There should be a calendar on the web so you can plan your schedule this year to help out with the club functions. We are still looking for help with the GARZETTE and historian just to name a few. The repeater system seems to be working ok and we want to get more links up this year. The six meter repeater got a work out during the holidays. There is a six meter net on Wednesday night at 2100 local. Join the group there. What kind of programs would you like to see this year? We need to hear from every member about what you want to see happen this year. BUT, suggestions are only good if there are people to help carry them out and make it happen. People make things happen.

I have been debating with myself weather or not to run again this year for President. There is no pay, or compensation. There is the satisfaction of knowing I give something back to my friends who take the time to talk to me on the radio. I can pick up the 2 meter mic and make a call and someone is always out there to chat with. Amateur Radio is a great hobby and we need to keep it out in front so the young people will see what fun we have. There are so many ways to do this too. If we keep it a secret, it will die a slow death as all the old timers slowly die off. There are a few things I would like to see done before I finish my time. Remember that the kids today are the future grown-ups of tomorrow to lead this country. GARS needs to make sure that it still has a future.

To keep our Special service club status we need to make sure at least 51% of GARS members are a member of the ARRL. Visit the web site if your not a member and sign up.

See you on the air.

73 till next time

ARES Moments



Do you ever listen to the Monday night ARES net on the 147.075 repeater and wonder about the strange "grid squares" mentioned during each check-in?

You might be more familiar with the popular *Maidenhead* grid squares used worldwide, especially for VHF and higher frequency operations. The Maidenhead coordinate system originated in 1980 at a VHF conference in the city of Maidenhead, UK. Each grid square encompasses 1° latitude by 2° longitude.

The grid square system used by ARES has nothing to do with the Maidenhead system and is far more mundane. ARES grids used in the metropolitan Atlanta area are based on the map numbers of a map book! While this may seem arbitrary, it is actually a pretty good system. ADC "The Map People" publish a selection of atlases covering the metro area. One giant book has the entire area. Smaller books cover just sections of the Atlanta region. Some regional books have overlapping coverage. But no matter what book you have, the same geographical area will appear on the same map number.

The ADC Gwinnett County atlas begins with map 560 and runs through map 842. If you open up the giant ADC map book and find map 651, for instance, it will be exactly the same as map 651 in the Gwinnett County book. So everyone operating in the Atlanta metro area can exchange coordinates that match a common street atlas. This is very handy for emergency work.

.. Continued Next Column

ARRL Contest Calendar

<p>January 1 Straight Key Night 8 - 9 ARRL RTTY Round-Up</p> <p>22 - 24 ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes</p> <p>February 19 - 20 ARRL International DX Contest (CW)</p> <p>March 5 - 6 ARRL International DX Contest (Phone)</p> <p>June 11 - 13 ARRL June VHF QSO Party</p> <p>25 - 26 ARRL Field Day</p> <p>July 9 - 10 IARU HF World Championships</p>	<p>August 6 - 7 ARRL UHF Contest</p> <p>20 - 21 ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest</p> <p>September 10 - 12 ARRL September VHF QSO Party</p> <p>17 - 18 ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest</p> <p>November 5 - 7 ARRL November Sweepstakes (CW)</p> <p>19 - 21 ARRL November Sweepstakes (Phone)</p> <p>December 2 - 4 ARRL 160 Meter Contest</p> <p>10 - 11 ARRL 10 Meter Contest</p>
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GARS Apparel

Several items of clothing that feature our Club logo and/or your call sign are available to Club members. These items include polo shirts, sweat shirts, caps, jackets and other articles. Call sign badges can also be ordered. See Dan Keohan, KF4YSU, at the next Club meeting for a listing of items and their associated costs.

QST ***** Contact a Club officer if you have a suggestion for an upcoming meeting speaker or topic. ****

...ARES

A Maidenhead grid is a four-character code of two letters and two numbers, for example, EM84. That's pretty good if you're trying to identify where in the world a station resides that you're working via 2 meter meteor scatter, but it's pretty useless if you're trying to report tornado damage and downed trees.

Tsunami News Coverage

From the ARRL Web Site

"Angel of the Seas": Post-Tsunami News Coverage Raises Ham Radio's Global Visibility

NEWINGTON, CT, Jan 4, 2005--News coverage about Amateur Radio's role in the tsunami relief effort have been widespread and positive. High-profile articles in the past few days have appeared in *The Washington Post* and the *Orlando Sentinel* in the US as well as in several South Asian news sources, including *The Times of India* and *The Hindu*. Other media, including *Agence France Presse*, the *Wall Street Journal* and *MSNBC*, also have run reports on the value of Amateur Radio in helping to open lines of communication cut off when the earthquake and tsunami struck December 26.

"Once again Amateur Radio operators have proven the value of the service by providing critical communications when other systems were disabled or overwhelmed," observed ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, W1AGP. "The immediate, organized and heroic response of the ham community in the Indian Ocean rim not only alerted the world of the seriousness of the situation, but saved lives by allowing responding agencies to coordinate early efforts to minimize further casualties and damage."

Media Reports Mentioning Ham Radio's Post-Tsunami Assistance (not a comprehensive list; URLs may change or disappear)

- "Radio Lifeline for Stricken Islands," in [*The Times of India*](http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/articleshow/978673.cms)
<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/articleshow/978673.cms>
- "HAM Contact Numbers for Andamans Search," in [*New Kerala*](http://www.newkerala.com/news-daily/news/features.php?action=fullnews&id=53558).
<http://www.newkerala.com/news-daily/news/features.php?action=fullnews&id=53558>
- "When Hindu, Muslim Didn't Matter, Helping Did," in [*New Kerala*](http://www.newkerala.com/news-daily/news/features.php?action=fullnews&id=53389).
<http://www.newkerala.com/news-daily/news/features.php?action=fullnews&id=53389>
- "Hams to the Rescue," in [*The Hindu*](http://www.hindu.com/mp/2005/01/01/stories/2005010102470200.htm).
<http://www.hindu.com/mp/2005/01/01/stories/2005010102470200.htm>
- "Ham Radio to the Rescue in Tsunami-Hit Andaman," in [*New Kerala*](http://athens-olympics-2004.newkerala.com/?action=fullnews&id=53736).
<http://athens-olympics-2004.newkerala.com/?action=fullnews&id=53736>
- "Ham Radio Provides the Missing Link," in [*The Economic Times*](http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/articleshow/978465.cms)
<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/articleshow/978465.cms>
- "When Radio Amateurs Came to Rescue Of Victims," in [*Tribune of India*](http://www.tribuneindia.com/2004/20041231/main3.htm)
<http://www.tribuneindia.com/2004/20041231/main3.htm>
- "SOS Sri Lanka," *The Wall Street Journal*, Dec 30, 2004, p A8.
- "HAM Operator Helps Families Connect with Tsunami Victims," in [*Tribune of India*](http://www.tribuneindia.com/2004/20041229/delhi.htm)
<http://www.tribuneindia.com/2004/20041229/delhi.htm>
- "HAM Operators Aid Relief Work in Andamans," in [*Rediff.com*](http://in.rediff.com/news/2005/jan/01an2.htm)
<http://in.rediff.com/news/2005/jan/01an2.htm>

Tech Fest 2005

By: Ray Back

The GARS Tech Fest is January 22, 2005 at St Marguerite D'Youville in Lawrenceville. The event will run from 11 AM until 3 PM. This year we will have a raffle with all profits going to the GARS Scholarship fund. The raffle prize is a 2004 ARRL Handbook donated by Ham Radio Outlet. Tickets are one dollar. We will also have a CW show and tell hosted by Ron Langston, WE5O. And don't forget we will also be having the annual GARS **Chili Cook-off**, for those who do not like Chili we will have burgers and hot dogs. You are welcome to bring a side dish or dessert.

So if you'd like to share your "HAM" knowledge with others; or if you want to compete in the Chili Cook-off, please contact Ray Back, KI4GRJ, Tech Fest chairman at (678) 380-1728 or by email at ki4grj@arrl.net.

Be sure to invite your non-ham friends. This should be a great family experience and a time for some of our younger citizens to become interested in the Magic of Amateur Radio.

Here's a partial list of activities.

- ARRL (American Radio Relay League)
- ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Services)
- Crew 73 Scouting at its best
- Contact Logging Programs and methods
- PSK-31 Digital Communications using Ham Radio and your computer.
- MARS (Military Affiliated Radio Stations)



- QCWA
(Quarter Century Wireless Association)
 - Using Morse Code or CW (continuous wave) with Ham Radio
 - Metal Detecting tools and tricks
 - High Altitude Ballooning



And more...We will be in a much larger area this year, so we still have a few spots open for displays and there is plenty of space for the Chili Cook-off.

Metro Atlanta Club Meetings

First Tuesday

Kennehoochee ARC

First United Methodist Church in
Marietta

Meeting begins at 7:30 PM
Talk In 146.880(-)

Second Monday

Georgia Tech ARC

Room W218

Van Leer Electrical Engineering
Bldg.

Georgia Tech Campus
Meeting at 7:00 PM

First Thursday

Atlanta Radio Club

Georgia Red Cross HQ
1955 Monroe Dr., Atlanta
Meeting is at 7:30 PM
Talk In -146.820(-)

N.E. Georgia ARC

Commerce Public Library
Meeting is at 6:30 PM
Talk In - 147.225(+)
PL 123.0

North Fulton Amateur Radio League

Southern Skillet
1037 Alpharetta St., Roswell
Dinner at 6:30 PM, meeting at 7:30
PM
Talk In - 145.47(-)

Second Thursday

Alford Memorial Radio Club

Annistown Road Baptist Church
Intersection of Annistown Rd &
Spain Rd

Stone Mountian
Dinner at 6:00 PM
Meeting at 7:30 PM
Talk In - 146.760(-)

First Saturday

North GA QRP Club

Wiecu Baptist Church on
Peachtree Rd/Wiecu, 10 AM

Metro Atlanta VE Exam Schedule

GARS publishes Metro Atlanta area VE exam schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions. Find additional sessions online at www.arrl-ga.org

(770) 973-2566

First Saturday, Even Months

9:00AM
EOC Building
Butch Nitz, AF4FS (770) 968-8780

Second Tuesday

7:00PM
Walton EMC
3645 Lenora Church Rd, Snellville
Wayne Taylor, WD4CCA
(770)498-7759

Second Saturday, Odd Months

ARRL VEC
8:30 AM
Stone Mountain Methodist Church
5312 West Mountain St.
Stone Mountain
Bob Varone, W4ETN
(770)978-3179

Third Saturday

CA VEC
9:00AM
Marietta First United Methodist Church
Room 305, 56 Whitlock Ave
Marietta
David Still, WB4RRD

GARS Communication System

6 Meter Repeater

53.110 (-1 MHz)
82.5 PL Tone

2 Meter Repeater

147.075(+) MHz
82.5 PL Tone

70 Cm Repeater

444.525(+) MHz
82.5 PL Tone

APRS

144.390 -- 1200 Baud
W4GR/Relay

Main Repeater Site

Oak Street, Lawrenceville

Backup Repeater Site

Lanier Mountain, Snellville

Remote Receive Sites

Bogon Road, Buford
Goshen Springs Road, Norcross
Lanier Mountain, Snellville



GARS Appreciates these fine sponsors that support our great organization!

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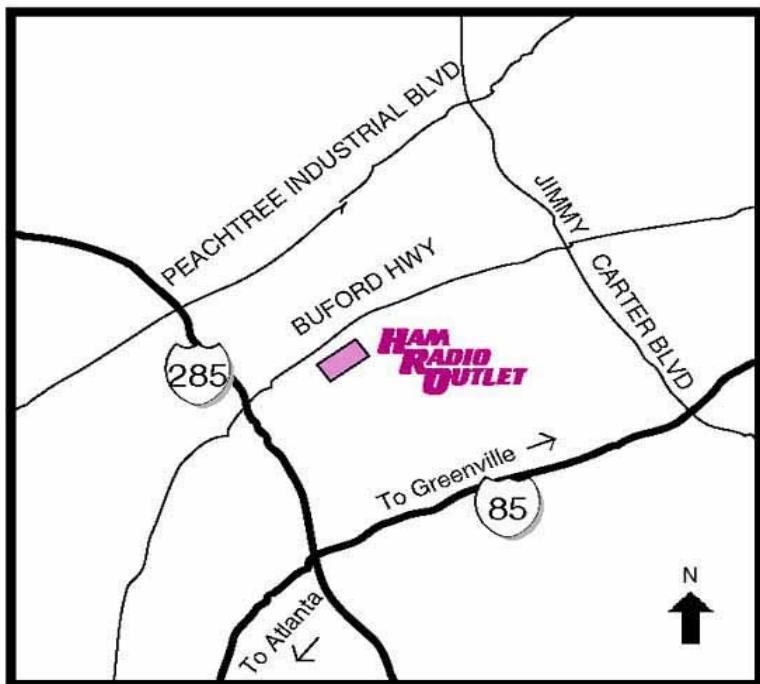
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Fax 770-263-9548

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Diamond
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Hy-Gain (Telex)
KLM
Larsen
M2
Premier
Valor
Van Gordon**

Crew 73 Offers Opportunity for Youth

by Steve Back, WB2OGY

A Boy Scout Venture Crew is a scouting opportunity for boys and girls ages 14 to 21. GARS holds a charter from the Northeast Georgia Council of the Boy Scouts of America for Venture Crew 73. The basic purpose of the crew is to encourage youth to learn about Amateur Radio while enjoying the adventure opportunities offered by scouting. These opportunities include access to scout camps, their facilities and the Council's high adventure instruction. As with traditional scouting units the venture crew is also encouraged to take seriously its duty to God and the community.

Scouting and Amateur Radio have a long history of working together and teaching the youth of America. A large number of GARS members are active in Scouting. Just over five years ago Carter Wood AG4LK decided it would be nice to lower the average age of GARS members to an age under 50 years. That thought brought about the birth of Crew 73. The Crew now has about 12 active youth members and over half of the youth are now licensed. The Crew is youth run but a small group of adult leaders ensures the activities are appropriate, safe and meet the guidelines of the Boy Scouts of America.

Crew activities usually mix high adventure and the use of amateur radio. A typical outing may involve camping, horse back riding and setting up a portable HF station at the campsite. The crew has shown an interest in horseback riding, climbing, hiking and shooting spots. Members of Crew 73 finished 3rd in a South

East Regional Archery Competition. The crew has also helped with GARS activities such as Field Day and won 2nd place in a competition for display exhibits.

As some of our crew approach the end of youth (Age 21) the crew is looking for new members. If anyone knows of young people who would enjoy the Crews activities please have them attend one of the crew meetings held the first Tuesday of each month. See the Crew website at <http://www.gars.org/crew73> for details. An interest in Amateur Radio is not necessary but while having fun with other activities an interest may develop. As members of GARS it is our responsibility to encourage the future of our radio service and the future of our country. Encouraging youth to join Crew 73 will help ensure a better future.

AREA HAMFEST INFO

February 26

Dalton, GA

March 19

Kennehoochee, Marietta, GA

May 20-22

Dayton HamVention, Dayton, OH

June 4

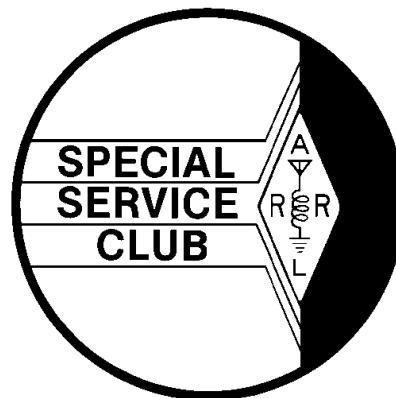
Atlanta radio Club, Atlanta, GA

July 9

Lanier Amateur Radio Club, Gainesville, GA

November 5-6

Alford Memorial Radio Club, Lawrenceville, GA





Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society
P.O. Box 88
Lilburn, GA 30048

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NEW MEMBER
 RENEWAL

Amateur Call Sign _____ License Class Novice Technician General

Name _____
 Advanced Extra

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ - _____

Email address _____

Home Telephone _____ Work Telephone _____

Cell Telephone _____ Date of Birth _____ / _____ / _____ (mm/dd/yy)

ARRL Member Yes No Life

Interests _____

I prefer to receive the GARZETTE newsletter by: US Mail Email (please check only one)

Type of Membership

Individual \$30.00 annually
 Student \$15.00 annually
 Senior \$15.00 annually (over age 65)
 Family ** \$35.00 annually

** Available for family members residing at the same address

Optional Contributions

Repeater Fund \$ _____
Scholarship Fund \$ _____

Additional Family Members **

Name _____ Date of Birth _____ / _____ / _____ (mm/dd/yy)

License Class Technician General Extra ARRL Member Yes No Life

Interests _____

Name: _____ Date of Birth _____ / _____ / _____ (mm/dd/yy)

License Class Technician General Extra ARRL Member Yes No Life

Interests _____

I agree to abide by the By-Laws of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society and understand that membership is subject to the approval of the Club.

Applicant Signature _____ Date _____ / _____ / _____

GARS USE ONLY

Date App Rcvd _____ / _____ / _____

Pmt Rcvd _____ / _____ / _____

Payment Amt \$ _____

Mem Appr _____ / _____ / _____

Database _____ / _____ / _____

Executive Committee Meeting

All interested individuals are invited and encouraged to attend the monthly Executive Committee Meeting. Presently, these gatherings occur one hour in advance of the regular Club Meeting. The location is in a classroom immediately near the Club meeting space.

Several years ago these Ex. Comm. meetings were instituted for the purpose of saving more time in our Club meetings for "radio talk" verses the business of the Club. To that end, they have been successful. However, some members enjoy ALL aspects of the Club, and as such, are encouraged to come, participate, share insights and opinions! We will all be benefited by the sharing of ideas & experience.

For the latest Club news, visit the GARS Website at:

<http://www.gars.org>

Recurring Calendar

- GARS Monthly club meeting is the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM. Check the Web Site for Location.
- Every Monday at 8 PM local time: GARS Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net on the GARS 2 meter repeater
- Every Wednesday at 9 PM local time: GARS 6 meter net on the GARS 6 meter repeater
- Every Saturday at 8AM local time: GARS Weekly Family Breakfast, Golden Corral Restaurant, Riverside Drive, Lawrenceville
- 15th of each month: Deadline for submittal of articles for the following month's GARZETTE

GARS Elmers

Many of us Hams got interested in the hobby (service) as a result of some influence an experienced Ham had on us. The GARS organization is blessed with a lot of talented members that are willing to share their knowledge. The following list is made up of those individuals willing to serve as Elmers. Hopefully, this list will grow, and in time, maybe we'll get more who are willing to add a particular area of expertise.

KF4KSE David Moon (770) 279-9924
mobile radio installation

KG4IUM Andrea Hartlage (770) 963-2715
making QSL cards

KG4FXG, Bill Carter, (770) 339-4531 Mobile CW

WA4DYD, Stan Edwards (770) 923-8770
Emergency Communications

GENERAL INFORMATION:

WE5O Ron Langston (770) 569-8354

N1TWX Win Jackson (404) 869-1347

W4WKP Johnnie Fearon (770) 207-0020

WB2YAD Duane Reynolds

WB9JSW, Carl Plotz

K4MJK Mike Kovak

K4CB Carter Bennett (770) 923-5446

W4ADE Ade Wirth (770) 614-3743

K4HBI Mike Swiderski (770) 449-0369

W8KJM, Barney Barnes (APRS)

CLUB OFFICERS

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Vice President

Earl Whatley, AF4FG

Secretary

Ken Dalton, KI4BQS

Treasurer

Dan Keohan, KF4YSU

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Tech Fest

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Don Ernest, KS4WR

Net Manager

Scott Hartlage, KF4PWI

Field Day Chair

Earl Whatley, AF4FG

Education Coordinator

Win Jackson, N1TWX
(404)869-1347

Club Meeting Coordinator

Jack Shipley, W4UVQ

Apparel Manager

Dan Keohan, KF4YSU

Holiday Party Co-Chairs

Carl Plotz, WB9JSW

Mavis Plotz, N9FWG

QSL Manager

Ade Wirth, W4ADE
(770)614-3743

Webmaster

Norman Schklar, WA4ZXV

Scholarship Chairman

Carter Wood, AG4LK

Technical Advisor

Mike Swiderski, K4HBI





Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society
PO Box 88
Lilburn, GA 30048

To receive the **Garzette** via e mail contact **David Branch**, KG4ZKN, kg4zkn@arrl.net



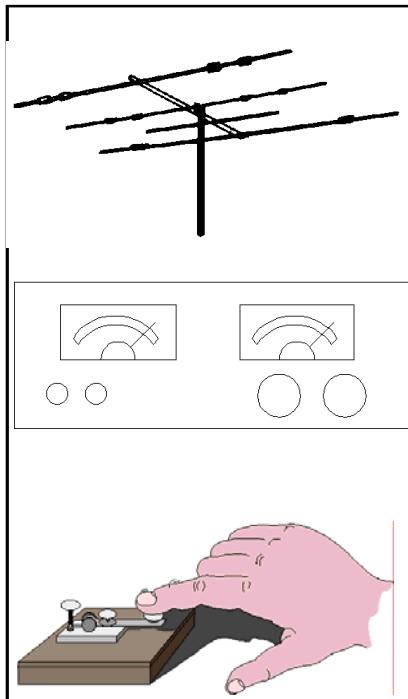
Next Meeting

Tuesday, January 11, 2005, 7:30PM Meeting at St Marguerite D'Youville Church, 85 Gloster Rd NW, Lawrenceville, GA 30044. Just off Highway 29 SW of Lawrenceville ([directions](#)).

The program will be on PSK31 sound card communications.

Nominations for Officers

Sign up to work the Dog Show



Tech Fest

January 22, 2005

Ray Back is spearheading this years Tech Fest. So contact Ray with your ideas and presentations.



Ron Langston, WE50 on WIREBOOK IV

Since I am preparing to install a tower and new antenna this spring I made a serious visit to the Wireman at the recent Stone Mountain Hamfest in Lawrenceville. While there I noticed that there is a new version of the WIREBOOK on the street. I have always found the WIREBOOK III (grey and white cover - copyright - circa 1995 - \$3.00) to be a handy reference in my shack so I forked over the new price of \$12.00 for WIREBOOK IV (shiny new red cover, thicker and bigger type - copyright 2002). It was probably the best thing I bought at that hamfest.

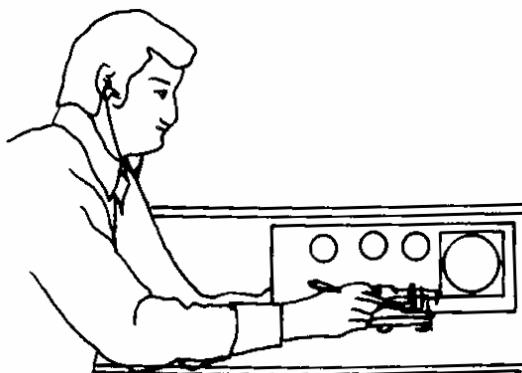
WIREBOOK IV continues to present very useful information about antennas and feedline in a helpful and plain language way that even this old brass pounder can understand. If you do not have a copy, I strongly recommend you order one by mail (on the web at www.thewireman.com or call him at 800-727-WIRE ((9473))). This reference belongs in every hams bookshelf **after it has been read cover to cover**. With it you will be able to make an informed approach to the selection of wire and feedline for your station. Read it and you will have more "wire smarts" than 90% of today's amateur radio operators. You will also know how **not** to waste money the next time you have to layout your hard earned cash for such things.

Do you understand the importance of terms like "capacitance" and "Velocity of propagation (VP)" as applied to coax feedline? Do you know the difference between Class IIA and Hard Line?

How about the difference between "Non-contaminating" and "designed for direct burial"? Did you know that the RG in RG-U stands for: R = Radio Frequency and G = Government and the U = Universal Specification? Those are just a couple of items covered in the first few pages of this well written book.

If you want to know a lot more about coax, connectors, grounding, antenna wire, baluns and balanced transmission line, this book is for you. The cartoons are pretty cute, too. (In spite of one cartoon, the toilet is not a good way to bring coax into your shack, hihi). The easy and often amusing style of the writer is terrific. It's kind of like you were sitting down on a reel of coax and having a talk with one of the most experienced hams you will ever meet. If you do not have it already I hope you will consider WIREBOOK IV the next time you want some GOOD READING about ham radio.

CUL, WE50



The GARZETTE

The GARZETTE is the official monthly organ of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the amateur radio art.

Original articles, art, and photos are invited and encouraged. Previously copyrighted submissions cannot be accepted for reprinting unless permission from the appropriate publisher is provided in writing along with the information being submitted. If reprints are from publications allowing their unrestricted use, please include a copy of the printed permission contained in the publication.

If possible, bring your articles to the monthly meeting in Microsoft Word format or by email to wa4z xv@arrl.net. Artwork can be accepted in most any graphics format and can be submitted via email to the same address. Alternate means of submittal can be arranged when necessary.

In keeping with the amateur radio spirit, permission is hereby granted for the reproduction of *The GARZETTE* articles by other amateur radio club newsletters provided that proper credit is given to the individual author and to *The GARZETTE*.

The GARZETTE is published each month with the assistance of Hal Manning, who prints the news letter. Rick Patchin, KD4RFK does the final production work on *The GARZETTE* by folding & labeling. John A. Davis, WB4QDX, stamps and gets the end product to the Post Office each month. Paul McInnish, K4BET who manages email delivery. Many thanks to each of them and all article contributors.

Deadline for submissions is the 20th of each month for inclusion in the following month's issue.

For any additional information contact:

Newsletter Editor:

Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV
(770-840-9664)
wa4z xv@schklar.com

All correspondence relating to articles posted in *The GARZETTE* or for information concerning advertising rates should be directed to the following address:

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society
P.O. Box 88
Lilburn, GA 30048
Attn: Newsletter Editor

2005 Calendar

Please help keep our calendar current by sending updates and additional events to the editor

Jan 11	Meeting
Jan 22	TechFest
Feb 4-6	Dog Show (Fund raiser)
Feb 8	Meeting -elections
Mar 8	Meeting
Apr 12	Meeting
May 10	Meeting
May 13-15	Dayton HamVention
May 30	Dacula
	Memorial Day Parade
Jun 4-5	Atlanta Hamfest
Jun 14	Meeting
Jun 25-26	Field Day
Jul 12	Meeting
Aug 9	Meeting
Aug 19-21	Dog Show (Fund Raiser)
Sep	Kidneyt Foundation Walk
Sep 13	Meeting
Oct	Jamboree on the Air
Oct	Fly-in
Oct 11	Meeting
Oct 20	Berkeley Lake School Demo
Nov 5-6	Alford Memorial Hamfest
Nov 8	Meeting
Dec	Party



ARRL Membership Application

Questions? Rather join by phone? Call (toll-free in the US)
1-888-277-5289.

https://www.arrl.org/forms/member_general-99.html